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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,056	03/11/2004	Junzo Tokunaka	450100-04964	4967

7590 04/10/2007
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EXAMINER

TAKELE, MESEKER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2109

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/10/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/798,056

Applicant(s)

TOKUNAKA, JUNZO

Examiner

Meseker Takele

Art Unit

2109

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloch et al. (US Patent No.: 5,745,102) in view of Harper et al. (US Patent No.: 6,476,817).

3. As to claims 1 and 12 Bloch discloses, an information processing (information monitor and process, see column, 3 line 18) apparatus for handling a storage medium storing content data and metadata associated therewith (example, storage device, labeling, see column 3, line 5), said storage medium being provided with on a surface thereof an information display area (example, liquid crystal display, see column, 3 lines 35-36), comprising: an extracting section for extracting from said metadata stored on said storage medium, display data to be displayed in said information display area (example, accessing data, data storage device, dynamic display device, see column, 3,

lines 4-12); and an information display unit for displaying the extracted display data onto said information display area (example, LCD display, see column 3, lines 35-36).

However Bloch does not disclose storage medium being provided with on a surface thereof an information display area. Harper, from the same field of endeavor discloses storage medium being provided with on a surface thereof an information display area (example, on an outer surface of casing 14, a display indicated as 18, see column 2, lines, 62-64 and figure 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have modified Bloch's display with the features of attached display on the surface of the storage medium as taught by Harper, because Harper's device eliminates the need of the display driver within the storage medium.

As to claims 7 and 18, Harper discloses, wherein said content data include at least video content data and said information display unit displays, in said information display area, thumbnail image data extracted from said video content data on the basis of said metadata (example, information about a program being recorded (such as program title and duration), if several programs are recorded on one tape, the names of the programs can be listed in the order they appear on the tape. Other, ad-hoc information, see column 5, lines 30-55).

As to claim 8, Harper discloses, a storage medium which is accessed for reading by an information processing apparatus, (example, the magnetic read head 104, is suitable for writing or reading, see column, 3 lines 46-49 and figure 2) and is formed with an information display area on a surface thereof, wherein display data

extracted from said metadata is displayed in said information display area by said information processing apparatus (example, on an outer surface of casing 14, a display indicated as 18, see column 2, lines, 62-64 and figure 4) .

As to claims 5 and 16, Bloch discloses, wherein said information display unit displays, in said information display area, said display data by coding at least a part thereof (example, for receiving and displaying the digital signal representing the decoded digital data, see column2, lines 5-7).

As to claims 6 and 17, Bolch discloses, a metadata editing section for editing said metadata in accordance with a processing result of said content data, wherein said extracting section extracts said display data also from the edited metadata (example, modified floppy disk drive, automatically update, automatic labeling, see column 3, lines 23-36).

As to claims 2, 9 and 13, Bolch discloses, wherein said information display area is rewritable (example, "electric paper" system is that such a display can be re-written upon essentially limitlessly, see column 4, line 50).

As to claims 3, 10, and 14, Harper discloses, wherein said information display area is exchangeable with another information display area. Yamaguchi from the same field of endeavor disclose, wherein said information display area is exchangeable with another information display area (example, the display 18 can be attached to different removable memory medias as shown in Figures 1 and 4).

As to claims 4, 11 and 15, Harper discloses, wherein said information display area is constituted by a rewrite sheet (example, electrical paper, see column 4, line, 50).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant disclosure.

Yamaguchi (US Patent No.: 6,441,807) is cited to teach Information recording device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Meseker Takele whose telephone number is (571) 270-1653. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30AM- 5:00PM est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xiao Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2100. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2109

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MT


XIAO WU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER